

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD JUNE 9, 2020**

Pursuant to rules of Council of the Town of Westfield, the members thereof convened in regular session Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Brindle made the following announcements:

“The adequate notice of this meeting, as required by the Open Public Meetings Act, was provided by the posting, mailing and filing of the annual notice of regularly scheduled meetings of the Town Council on December 11, 2019. The notice was, on that date, posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, mailed to THE WESTFIELD LEADER, and THE STAR LEDGER, and filed with the Clerk of the Town of Westfield.”

**PRESENT:** Mayor Brindle Council Members, Habgood, Parmelee, LoGrippo, Katz, Mackey, Contract, Dardia, Boyes

**ABSENT:** None

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, this meeting was held remotely through Zoom Webinar. The public was provided with access to join the webinar through Zoom

### **FLAG SALUTE**

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Mayor Brindle presented the following Proclamation:

*Town of Westfield*

*Westfield, New Jersey*

**PROCLAMATION**

**LGBTQ Pride Month**

**June 2020**

**WHEREAS**, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month is celebrated each year in the month of June to commemorate the anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion in New York City on June 28, 1969, which most historians consider to be the birth of the modern LGBTQ movement. At the time, police raids on bars catering to LGBTQ patrons were common, but that night, the violent response ignited a national firestorm of activism that brought new visibility to the struggle for LGBTQ equality; and

**WHEREAS**, all people deserve to live with dignity and respect, free from fear and violence, and protected against discrimination, regardless of their gender identity or sexual orientation.; and

**WHEREAS**, as Mayor, I am steadfastly committed to the Town of Westfield as a welcoming and inclusive community to all; and

**WHEREAS**, to advance that commitment, it is important to celebrate Pride Month to honor the history of the LGBTQ liberation movement and to support the rights of all citizens to experience equality and freedom from discrimination; and

**WHEREAS**, while issuing a Presidential Proclamation in June of 2015 declaring June as Pride Month, former President Obama spoke these important words, “Over the course of more than two centuries of striving and sacrifice, our country has expanded civil rights and enshrined equal protections into our Constitution. Through struggle and setback, we see a common trajectory

toward a more free and just society. *But we are also reminded that we are not truly equal until every person is afforded the same rights and opportunities -- that when one of us experiences discrimination, it affects all of us...*"; and

**WHEREAS**, the existing patchwork of legal protections for LGBTQ people in the United States leaves millions of American citizens subject to bullying and discrimination. How can it be that in 2020, only 22 states and the District of Columbia prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity?; and

**WHEREAS**, while society at large increasingly supports LGBTQ equality, discrimination and prejudice still exists, highlighting the need for continuing education and awareness efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, celebrating Pride Month influences awareness and provides support and advocacy for our LGBTQ community, and serves as an opportunity to act and engage in dialogue to strengthen alliances, build acceptance and advance equal rights;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED** that that I, Mayor Michelle W. Brindle, in support of the rights of all LGBTQ citizens to experience equality and freedom from discrimination, do hereby designate the month of June 2020 as Pride Month in the Town of Westfield.

#### Administrator's Update

- Discussed the 2020 Municipal Budget and stated that all budget documents, including the final adopted budget, the User Friendly Budget, and the Budget Q&A were posted to the Town's website. Also mentioned that budget documents from prior years are also available on the website, going back to approximately 2010;
- Announced that the second mural to be painted under the North and South Avenue train trestle at the traffic circle would soon be underway. Stated that the canvas made of plywood and railings were installed last week and are ready for the artist to begin painting. Feels it is important to note that the funding of this project was provided through very generous donations to the Town's public arts fund. Thanked SEI Construction who donated their time to install the railings. Also thanked Richard Eubanks of the Department of Public Works who worked with SEI Construction on this project;
- Provided an update on Mindowaskin Park improvements and announced that the paving of Park Drive was completed yesterday, and striping was completed today, which included the striping of regular and handicapped parking spaces, as well as the striping of existing and new crosswalks. With the completion of the project, the park was opened today, and all barricades were removed. The only sections of the park that remain closed are the playground, which DPW improved with some plantings last week, and the water and dog fountain donated by Columbia Bank and gifted to the Town by the Friends of Mindowaskin Park. The trench for plumbing was completed today with installation expected tomorrow. Feels the park looks great and that DPW would be back to complete landscaping.

#### Mayor's Remarks:

- Thanked those who joined the meeting virtually and reminded all that public comment would only be accepted via Zoom, with live streaming for viewing only on Facebook. A replay of the meeting would also be available on Facebook, YouTube, and TV 36;
- Provided an update on COVID-19 and announced that there were 164,796 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in New Jersey, with another 680 still under investigation. Currently, Union County reports 16,302 cases, with Westfield reporting three new cases since her last report on June 5, 2020 (zero on Saturday and Sunday, two on Monday, and one today), bringing Westfield's total to 279. Stated that this is an increase of just five cases since the last meeting two weeks ago and feels it is great news and a testament to the commitment residents have shown with social distancing protocols;
- Provided a State update and announced that Governor Murphy lifted New Jersey's stay at home order today, based on the ongoing trends in the statewide health data. He also increased maximum gathering limits for both indoors (25% of capacity, or 50 people, whichever is lower) and outdoors (100 people). Outdoor gatherings of more than 100 persons are allowed for First Amendment-protected outdoor activities, such as political protests or outdoor religious services. The Governor anticipates raising the limit on outdoor non-protest and non-religious gatherings to 250 people on June 22 and to 500 people on

July 3. In addition, all outdoor recreational and entertainment businesses that were previously closed may reopen, with the exceptions of amusement parks, water parks, and arcades. The Governor also announced yesterday that municipal and private pool clubs are permitted to open on June 22, with guidance that requires capacity to be capped at 50%, as well as sanitizing protocols and other best practices to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Stated that, as always, the safety of Town employees and members remains the top priority at Memorial Pool, and the Recreation Department and Recreation Commission await the State's full guidance to determine a final opening date, which is expected to be soon after June 22. Similarly, Recreation is evaluating the specific guidance issued yesterday from the NJ Department of Health regarding day camps, as well as the guidelines from the State Department of Education that prevent the Town from using local school facilities this summer. All of these factors are being discussed to determine the Recreation Department's summer camp offerings in the near future;

- Thanked all who attended the Black Lives Matter peaceful protest on Sunday in Mindowaskin Park. Feels the passion and courage demonstrated by the Westfield High School student organizers was inspiring and believes the future is in good hands with this generation leading the way. Also stated that she was very happy that nearly every single person was wearing a mask, and many did their best to keep their distance from others. That said, feels everyone needs to ensure that their collective sacrifice over the past few months keeps the public health trends moving in the right direction and suggested that those who attended the protest get tested so that the Town could continue to operate from a place of responsibility and information. Reminded citizens that Union County residents could be tested for free, with or without symptoms, at the Kean University testing center and provided contact information for those interested in making an appointment. Feels that while Sunday's protest was extremely successful in expressing a collective desire to rid the community and country of racism, she hopes all could agree that this is only the beginning in making Westfield a place of equality and inclusion for all. Concrete action steps are required to ensure that racism of any kind is not tolerated here. To that end, stated that she held the first meeting of the Human Relations Advisory Commission (HRAC), whose members are being formally appointed tonight. In addition to these appointments, the HRAC would also have several public liaisons, including the Police Chief, Fire Chief, School Superintendent, Ministerium representative Rabbi Ethan Prosnit, and representatives from the Seniors and Public Arts Councils, and a high school student representative. The HRAC is in the process of refining its mission and identifying priorities which would then be shared with the community and additional volunteers would be sought. Regarding police policy, asked the Police Chief to address policy reforms that are already under way, many of which he has instituted as part of the accreditation process and his transition to community policing. Assured all that this Town Council is prepared to have frank discussions and take meaningful policy action in collaboration with the Police Chief, who has expressed his desire to work with the Public Safety Committee to examine data and recommend policies to address any issue that might be considered discriminatory. Feels the Town is incredibly fortunate to have Chief Battiloro at the helm who would speak about many of the reform initiatives he has already initiated or has planned.

The Police Chief referred to Mayor Brindle's comment concerning accreditation and explained that one of his first priorities when he was appointed as Chief of Police was to initiate the process of accreditation. Explained that the Police Department's Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and policies were archaic and in dire need of updating and reissuance. An outside consultant was hired to assist the Police Department with that process and since the beginning of the year, at least 40 to 50 new SOP's were issued, including a new Use of Force Policy issued March 18, 2020. Feels this new Use of Force Policy addresses many of the issues that have been raised today, such as specifically identifying what a choke hold is and explicitly prohibiting it except in instances in which deadly force would warrant it. Stated that he is fully committed to making any changes within the Police Department that are necessary in order to best serve all of Westfield's residents. In addition, stated that he is committed to taking steps as recommended in the Governor's and Attorney General's "*Excellence in Policing*" initiative. Ensured all that the Police Department would take any and every needed action to ensure that another incident like the incident that occurred with George Floyd does not happen in Westfield, and to end any type of systemic racism that might be perceived in law enforcement. Feels Mr. Floyd's death should not have occurred, and he is confident that with the Police Department's revised policies and SOP's, that type of incident would not happen in Westfield.

In addition, the Police Chief stated that he does not support the appearance of military equipment in civilian law enforcement because he feels it sends the wrong message. Explained that the Westfield Police Department is taking steps to build a relationship with the community to earn trust and confidence, not to destroy it, and believes military equipment destroys the appearance of the Police Department in the eyes of the public. As such, the Police Department has been working to sell or transfer all of the military equipment acquired over the years, and any equipment that could not be sold would be destroyed. Discussed military surplus vehicles that were recently destroyed and discussed an agreement that was signed with an entity in Pennsylvania to sell a large quantity of military equipment and stated that he expects to begin the process of transferring that equipment to their possession as soon as they re-open following coronavirus restrictions.

Lastly, the Police Chief explained that Westfield has a very robust professional standards program in place to investigate complaints of officer misconduct. Stated that he served as internal affairs commander prior to being appointed Police Chief, and the Police Lieutenant that is currently assigned to this function has had his work on many complaints reviewed by the Union County Prosecutor's Office, and all were found to be thorough and complete. Stated that he cannot remember the last time the Westfield Police Department received a complaint regarding its use of force, let alone sustained one, but he is not willing to rest on those merits, stating that the Police Department would do whatever is necessary to ensure that no such complaint occurs. Concluded his comments by stating that Westfield has a very professional Police Department that would work hard to keep it that way, and that he is committed to making whatever changes are necessary to ensure that.

Councilman LoGrippe asked the Police Chief to provide an update on the Police Department's collective bargaining agreement because he is hearing that police officers are disappointed that no agreement has been reached.

The Town Administrator explained that it is not appropriate to discuss personnel matters and the status of labor negotiations in public forums and could only say that the Police Department and the Town, with their respective attorneys, continue to have discussions.

Councilman LoGrippe also asked the Police Chief to elaborate on an incident that occurred in 2006 which involved a resident that passed away while in police custody.

Mayor Brindle asked that further discussion be deferred until after the Town Council gets through the items on the agenda. Also thanked the Police Chief and mentioned that Councilman Dardia, as Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, would be working with the Police Chief and the Police Department to review policies. In addition, in order to be transparent, data would be shared with the public. Commended the Police Chief for his willingness to collaborate and be transparent, as he has been since he was appointed as Police Chief.

Mayor Brindle continued her remarks as follows:

- Discussed the declaration of June as LGTBQ Pride Month and stated that in addition to a Proclamation to be read this evening, the Town wanted to find a way to visibly commemorate the month. Explained that last year the Town raised the Pride flag at Town Hall for the first time in Westfield's history, but believes it did not seem appropriate this year because flags are currently flying at half-staff statewide to honor the victims of the pandemic. As such, this year the Town would be painting rainbow crosswalks at the intersection of Elm and Quimby Streets. Feels this not only honors Gay Pride Month, but longer term it memorializes rainbows as a symbol of hope that has been seen all over Town the last few months. Stated that this initiative would be led by the Westfield High School LGBTQ Club, who would work with a local artist and Town officials to bring the vision to fruition;
- Announced that Westfield High School's graduation would be taking place on July 8 at 3:00 PM with a July 9 rain date. Stated that she spoke to the Governor's office and Superintendent Dolan about a graduation ceremony this morning, just prior to the announcement that 500 people would be allowed at outdoor gatherings in early July. In addition, stated that she would be speaking to WHS principal Mary Asfendis tomorrow to discuss arrangements;

- Thanked the Reopening Task Force for their work in developing the initial downtown reopening plan. Stated that based upon their diverse range of experience, as well as the input from 2,000 survey participants, the plan balances the importance of public health with the needs of both local business owners and consumers. Beginning next Monday, retailers would be permitted to expand their footprints by utilizing outdoor sales space; restaurants would be able to use sidewalks for expanded outdoor dining capacity; 15 minute parking designated for curbside pickup would be expanded to all of Quimby Street and Elm Street between North Avenue and East Broad Street; and Quimby Street would be closed to vehicular traffic on weekends to accommodate additional outdoor dining space. Explained that the plan must be adaptable to feedback and flexible in its implementation so that necessary changes could be made along the way, and that this is the first step in approaching the new normal in Downtown Westfield;
- Lastly, discussed the ordinances scheduled for introduction tonight which are products of months of work by the Town Council's various committees and, more broadly, a reflection of what she promised when she was elected: a commitment to historic preservation efforts, a greener and sustainable community, broader representation on issues like mental health, and a transformative, strategic plan for revitalizing the downtown reflected in the "area in need of rehabilitation" designation. Referenced previous statements she has made concerning the need to chart the course for the Town's future, which means embracing change and making bold decisions to reflect the values of the community, and the feedback consistently provided by residents on quality of life issues that matter to all. Thanked everyone for their ongoing engagement, especially in the midst of unprecedented challenges presented by the pandemic. Feels that while the pandemic is not over, she is thrilled to be able to resume some function of life as gatherings increase and the downtown reopens next week. Encouraged all to be compassionate and respectful of neighbors by wearing a mask when in proximity to others, maintaining social distancing, and washing hands. Stated that these are the only tools at everyone's disposal to make sure that the progress that has been made is maintained.

Councilman LoGrippo referred to Mayor Brindle's comments concerning the declaration of June as LGBTQ Pride Month and asked why the Pride Flag could not be raised in 2020.

Mayor Brindle explained that the Pride Flag is not being raised for no other reason than the fact that flags are still at half-staff in memory of those that have died from COVID-19.

Councilman LoGrippo mentioned that Cranford raised a Pride Flag.

Mayor Brindle confirmed that Cranford did raise a Pride Flag and that municipalities are making these types of decisions based upon what they feel is best for their community. Feels it is difficult to celebrate the raising of a Pride Flag when other flags are at halfstaff. Feels there is an agreement that rainbow crosswalks would be appropriate and long-standing.

Councilman LoGrippo stated that he personally prefers the Pride Flag but understands Mayor Brindle's position. Discussed the decision concerning rainbow crosswalks and asked if this would be permitted because it is his understanding that the federal traffic bureau requires that crosswalks be painted white.

Mayor Brindle explained that this idea is not unique to Westfield and that there are rainbow crosswalks throughout the country. Feels there are ways that this could be done in compliance with standards.

Councilman LoGrippo asked the Police Chief to elaborate on this issue from a public safety standpoint because he feels the intersection proposed for a rainbow crosswalk is a busy intersection.

The Town Administrator replied, explaining that details are not yet known and that the DPW would be working with high school students to effectively and safely paint the crosswalk.

Councilman LoGrippo feels public safety experts should be consulted.

Mayor Brindle assured all that nothing would be done that would compromise public safety and this project would be done in collaboration with the Town’s public safety officials.

**APPOINTMENTS**

***Human Relations Advisory Commission***

|                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Alexis Jemal</i>     | <i>December 31, 2022</i> |
| <i>Cheryl Swift</i>     | <i>December 31, 2022</i> |
| <i>Rodney Ross</i>      | <i>December 31, 2022</i> |
| <i>Varsha Iyer</i>      | <i>December 31, 2021</i> |
| <i>Claudio Ramirez</i>  | <i>December 31, 2021</i> |
| <i>Michele Coyne</i>    | <i>December 31, 2021</i> |
| <i>Jenny Tannenbaum</i> | <i>December 31, 2020</i> |
| <i>Rami Sarabi</i>      | <i>December 31, 2020</i> |
| <i>Gary Timm</i>        | <i>December 31, 2020</i> |

***Alternates***

|                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Laurie Clancy</i>  | <i>December 31, 2021</i> |
| <i>Debbie Goddard</i> | <i>December 31, 2020</i> |

***Liaisons***

*Rabbi Ethan Prosnit, Ministerium*  
*Chief Christopher Battiloro, Westfield Police Department*  
*Chief Anthony Tiller, Westfield Fire Department*  
*Dr. Margaret Dolan, Westfield School Superintendent*  
*Lee Schaefer, Westfield Public Arts Commission*  
*Ron Holmes, Lifelong Westfield/Senior Advisory Council*  
*Anna Qiang, Westfield High School Liasion*

**ADVERTISED HEARINGS**

**GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2171**

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING THE IMPLEMENTATION IN THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD OF THE “FIVE YEAR TAX ECEMPTION AND ABATEMENT LAW” PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:21-1.

Advertised returnable this evening.

Hearing no comments, Mayor Brindle declared the hearing closed.

**PENDING BUSINESS**

An ordinance entitled, “GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2171 - AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING THE IMPLEMENTATION IN THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD OF THE “FIVE YEAR TAX ECEMPTION AND ABATEMENT LAW” PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:21-1.” by Councilwoman Mackey, seconded by Councilman Katz, was taken up, read and passed by the following vote of all present upon roll call as follows:

|               |                 |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Yeas: Habgood | Nays: LoGrippto | Absent: *Dardia |
| Parmelew      |                 |                 |
| Katz          |                 |                 |
| Mackey        |                 |                 |
| Contract      |                 |                 |
| Boyes         |                 |                 |
| Mayor Brindle |                 |                 |

\*Councilman Dardia lost his connection to the meeting and was not present when the vote was called.

**BIDS****MINUTES**

On a motion by Councilman LoGrippo and seconded by Councilwoman Habgood, Council approved the Minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting held May 26, 2020.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS****OPEN DISCUSSION BY CITIZENS**

Mayor Brindle opened the public comments portion of the meeting and asked if there were any questions or comments.

Don Villane, 633 Cumberland Street, stated that he wanted to address the Town Council with respect to the handling of people with mental illness. Discussed the current movement with Black Lives Matter and how the police and community need to address it, but also feels a part of the community and society that needs to be included are people with mental illness. Stated that mental illness knows no color, race, creed or sex and has a “nasty” stigma and is usually ignored. Feels there are not many people that speak out on their behalf and feels he needs to discuss an incident that occurred in the past concerning the death of his brother, Robert Villane. Stated that it was a horrific situation and that his brother died at the hands of the Westfield Police Department. Explained that the incident that occurred with George Floyd was a reminder of what happened with his brother, and that he and his family members remember that his brother also stated that he “could not breathe” during the incident with police. Feels he cannot ignore that this happened and feels he can only join in with others from the Black Lives Matter movement that feel pain and injustice. Feels he must speak out for his brother and that he has tried for over 13 years to make a change but feels that his “voice was a whisper”. Stated that he needs to know that his brother’s death was not in vain. Explained that his family realized that the way his brother was handled was considered okay, and that no wrongdoing occurred. Referred to the incident and stated that Chief Battiloro was the person who informed his parents of his brother’s death and that Chief Battiloro stated at that time that the Police Department was “just doing its job”. Feels his family understood that that was the status quo but realized that the lack of protocol needed to change. He strived for education for all police officers because he feels what happened was not okay and should not be okay. Also feels apologies were looked at as an admission of guilt even though his family was not willing to sue. Stated that no apologies were received and the efforts for the education of all officers involved was minimal. Explained that he is upset that change has moved at a “snail’s pace” and that he is embarrassed that his Town has taken so long to make and admit that change is needed. He would like to see what changes are being done, and what would be done to enforce changes of what is acceptable, what is “crossing the line” and what education is being offered to officers to make sure that the “past will not repeat itself again and again”. Questioned why only 14 officers took the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) class in the last 9 years and why Chief Battiloro has not taken that class. Feels the Police Chief should lead by example and believes better efforts are needed. While he understands that changes are occurring, he would like to see documentation that exists to ensure that Westfield is as safe as he feels it should be.

Mayor Brindle extended her condolences to Mr. Villane on the loss of his brother and explained that she was unaware of the incident until she recently read about it. Informed Mr. Villane that one thing the Town is doing is introducing an ordinance to establish a Mental Health Commission, knowing that mental health in the community, and overall, is something that has not been proactively addressed in a meaningful way. Explained that one thing that the Mental Health Commission would be reviewing is policy, and that they have had conversations with the Police Chief in the last year to discuss police procedure in dealing with mental health issues. Offered her condolences again to Mr. Villane and his entire family on the loss of his brother and agreed that the incident should not have happened and should have been, and will be, a teaching and a learning experience.

Walter Korfmacher, 252 Hazel Avenue, thanked the Westfield High School students that were involved in organizing the Black Lives Matter protest that was held over the weekend and thanked the Mayor for her comments during the event.

Mr. Korfmacher also spoke in support of the ordinance to amend regulations that would allow for the installation of solar panels on the street facing side of homes.

Mayor Brindle thanked Mr. Korfmacher for his comments and informed him that additional changes to the ordinance are necessary and as such, introduction has been postponed until the meeting of June 30, 2020.

George Rizk, 370 Orenda Circle, discussed the proposed ordinance to amend solar panel regulations and referenced his comments during a previous Town Council meeting in which he voiced his frustration with being unable to install solar panels on the street facing side of his home.

Mr. Rizk also thanked the Mayor for her updates concerning COVID-19. In addition, thanked the Green Team for its efforts in the amendment to solar panel regulations. Feels it is the “little” things that are done that could help to reduce the carbon footprint. Also feels the change in regulations would help residents financially and discussed the monthly savings he could expect by installing solar panels on the front facing side of his home. Urged the Town Council to move forward with adoption of the ordinance.

Cornelius Cody, 337 First Street, thanked the Mayor, Town and Police Chief for their response to the Black Lives Matter protest in Westfield. Discussed the demonstrations that are being held not only across the county, but across the world, and feels it is unprecedented to see these protests in suburban towns like Westfield.

Mr. Cody also expressed concern with condominiums that are being constructed between South Avenue and First Street, specifically in the area surrounding Holy Trinity church and school. Explained that he has been speaking to his neighbors about this development and many are concerned with the impact to traffic and parking. Stated that the area is underenforced with respect to parking and many residents are constantly needing to interrupt church events because of blocked driveways. Stated that he hopes the Town has a plan to address the increased traffic and parking issues that would result once the construction of this development is complete, such as increased parking enforcement.

Mayor Brindle thanked Mr. Cody for his comments and explained that the Town is currently embarking on a Town-wide Circulation Plan to address traffic hot spots and the like. Further explained that this is the first time the Town would be embarking on a Town-wide plan and that it would be integrated with the land use element of the Master Plan. Stated that the plan involves a wholistic view of traffic management within the Town because development in one area could have unintended consequences on traffic in another area. Also explained that the plan has been delayed due to the pandemic because traffic could not be accurately measured when residents have been asked to stay at home, but it is expected to begin moving forward soon and public participation would be requested. Encouraged Mr. Cody to register for Town updates so that he is notified when the public is invited to attend meetings and provide input.

Councilman Contract also asked Mr. Cody to contact the Police Department whenever he sees a blocked driveway or similar issue. Also suggested that Mr. Cody take pictures and forward them to him and Councilman LoGrippo because they want to ensure that rules are enforced. Also feels other measures could be taken in the short-term, such as measures that were taken on Grove Street and in other areas within Ward 3, that could make a difference.

Councilman LoGrippo asked Mr. Cody if he finds that the parking issues have been created by commuters or high school students.

Mr. Cody explained that it is typically a mix of people, including residents of an existing condominium complex, high school students when school is in session, as well as some commuters, but feels most issues occur when events are held at Holy Trinity Church and school.

Robert Kelly, 188 Harrow Road, discussed the demolition of 2 houses on his street in the past 2 months and stated that he supports their demolition because he feels it is progress. However, there is one home in the middle of the block that has a vacant lot next to his home that is filled with debris, including trees that were recently removed. Stated that he has contacted the Town numerous times and the Town has addressed the portion of the property along Harrow Road, but there is a portion that is owned by a resident of Garwood that has not been addressed. Feels it is the poorest maintained property in the entire Town.



Councilman Contract informed Mr. Kelly that the Town does have recourse with respect to property maintenance issues and there are property maintenance regulations that could be enforced. Stated that he would drive by the property tomorrow but asked that Mr. Kelly take pictures of the area and send them to him and Councilman LoGripipo. He would also ask the Town Administrator to follow up with the Property Maintenance Officer. Also stated that he would follow up to ensure that the trees that were removed were done in compliance with the Town's tree removal ordinance.

Mr. Kelly discussed the new homes that are being built that would have this vacant property as their view.

Councilman LoGripipo asked Mr. Kelly if his home backs up to Oxford Terrace.

Mr. Kelly stated that his home is located on the corner of Harrow Road and Oxford Terrace.

Councilman LoGripipo stated that Mr. Kelly's home is next to a Town lot.

Mr. Kelly explained that his home is next to a Town lot, but also next to a lot owned by a resident of Garwood who rents apartments in a home in the back.

The Town Administrator explained that the Town owns and maintains a portion of the lot described by Mr. Kelly. Stated that there have been negotiations to sell the Town's piece of the property to the adjoining property owner to develop it. Stated that he contacted residents of Harrow Road, including Mr. Kelly, to inform them of the potential sale of the property.

Mr. Kelly stated that he recalls being contacted by the Town, but he was not aware that the sale had been finalized.

The Town Administrator explained that there are many factors involved when selling Town property and explained that if it is sold to the abutting property owner, it could then be developed, and maintenance would be the responsibility of the new property owner. Explained that the sale is not yet finalized and thanked Mr. Kelly for his patience.

Councilman LoGripipo stated that he lives in that same area and is familiar with this vacant property.

Mr. Kelly stated that he understands the circumstances and that he has "lived with it" for 38 years, but feels it is unfair to the new residents that have paid over \$1 million for their homes to have to look at this lot.

The Town Administrator stated that he would ask the Property Maintenance Officer to follow up in the meantime.

Tim Van Epp, 630 Glenn Avenue, Green Team Co-chairman, discussed the ordinance to amend solar panel regulations and thanked Councilwoman Mackey, the Code Review and Town Property Committee, as well as the Town Attorney for their efforts with this ordinance and for working with the Green Team. Understand that more time is needed to discuss language within the ordinance but supports the fact that it is being given such close scrutiny.

Mr. Van Epp also discussed other Green Team initiatives that are moving forward, including a sustainable land use pledge and an ordinance concerning a Government Energy Aggregation (GEA) program and expressed his support for both. Discussed climate resilience and sustainability and stated that there would be many requests concerning this issue over the next few years due to the number of new programs and plans by the State of New Jersey. Explained that many of these programs have a "trade off", but the Green Team is hoping that the Town and its residents would give the proper emphasis to climate change.

Councilman LoGripipo referred to the ordinance authorizing a GEA program and requested clarification as to the cost.

The Town Administrator explained that the ordinance to be introduced authorizes the establishment of the program. Once the program is officially established, the Town would then need to engage a third party to begin the aggregation process.

Andrew Stillufsen, 667 Fourth Avenue, discussed General Ordinance No. 2179 which authorizes amendments to historic preservation regulations. Questioned why the property owners of historically designated homes were not involved with the process of amending this ordinance. Feels the proposed ordinance is not one of general application and only applies to approximately 25 residential properties in Town. Feels the impact to those properties is direct and overwhelmingly negative to homeowners. Also feels it provides the Town with all of the benefits of preservation with no benefit to the homeowner. For this reason, feels it is only fair to involve homeowners and obtain their input. Suggested that the owners of designated homes be invited to a meeting to go through the proposed changes and solicit input. Feels it is difficult to understand the changes that have been proposed. Believes if the purpose of the ordinance is to encourage property owners to designate their homes, then those who have already been through the designation process could provide helpful input based upon their own experiences. Also expressed his disappointment that the ordinance has only been disclosed to the public now, stating that he has been asking the Historic Preservation Commission for over a year to provide him with information as to the proposed changes and to allow homeowners the opportunity for input. While he was not provided with copies of the proposed changes, he was told that the public would have an opportunity to provide input. Requested that the Town Council engage with the owners of historic homes to obtain their input to ensure that the ordinance “works” for homeowners while preserving Westfield’s history.

Councilman LoGrippe referred to language within the proposed ordinance which indicates that homes built prior to 1930 would be subject to certain requirements. Requested clarification as to how this specific date/year was randomly selected.

Councilwoman Habgood explained that the year was not selected randomly but feels Mr. Stillufsen’s questions should be addressed first. Councilwoman Habgood thanked Mr. Stillufsen for his questions and his frequent participation in Historic Preservation Commission meetings. Stated that she would like more public participation in Historic Preservation Commission meetings given the very strong public interest that was shown in the Master Plan process for preserving the historic nature of Westfield and hopes that it would become a more frequent occurrence. Explained that the ordinance is being presented on first reading which is the beginning of the process and there would be opportunity for public input. Also stated that the ordinance would require Planning Board review prior to a public hearing and a final vote to adopt by the Town Council. Requested that the Town Attorney provide further details as to the adoption process. Also stated that she was present when Mr. Stillufsen requested information concerning the proposed amendments to the ordinance. Explained that the process for public participation is starting now and all feedback is welcomed, not only from those who own a historically designated home, but also by residents of West Dudley Avenue who have expressed an interest in having their neighborhood designated.

Councilwoman Mackey addressed Councilman LoGrippe’s question concerning the selection of the year 1930 as the date in which certain requirements would apply under the proposed amendments. Explained that this date was selected based upon input from experts who felt that homes built prior to this date were architecturally significant. Discussed homes built in the 1950’s and explained that the quality of materials used was different than the material used before the war. The intent is to encourage those with homes containing architectural “treasures” to consider restoring them because they contribute to the historical character of the Town.

The Town Attorney also provided clarification as to the selection of the year 1930 and explained that that portion of the ordinance deals with demolitions. Referred to various discussions held by the Code Review and Town Property Committee concerning this language and explained that some municipalities use the age of a home as a benchmark (i.e. 75 or 65 years of age) while others use a specific year or date. The intent, with respect to demolition, is to select a date that targets homes that are old enough to be considered a historically designated structure. The year 1930 was derived through discussions by the Code Review and Town Property Committee as to the best way to preserve older homes and to provide an opportunity to prevent them from being demolished.

Councilman LoGrippe discussed a scenario in which an older resident wishes to sell his/her home to a developer, but the home was built in 1928 and is in very poor condition. Questioned whether the demolition could still move forward since the home was built in 1928 and asked the Town Attorney to go through the process as outlined in the ordinance as it would pertain to this scenario. Feels this aspect of the ordinance is concerning to many residents.

The Town Attorney explained that, under the proposed ordinance, the Construction Code Official would not be permitted to issue a demolition permit to a homeowner who seeks to demolish a home built prior to 1930 without certain procedures being followed. Further explained that within 5 days of a demolition permit application being filed, the Construction Code Officer would forward the application to the Historic Preservation Officer, who is a member of the Historic Preservation Commission. If the Historic Preservation Officer determines that the building has historic, cultural or architectural significance in accordance with the criteria set forth in the ordinance, the Historic Preservation Officer would notify the Construction Code Official of that fact and the demolition application would be forwarded to the Historic Preservation Commission for review. If the Historic Preservation Commission agrees with the Historic Preservation Officer's determination, then the Historic Preservation Commission has a short timeframe to determine if the home is worthy of designation as a historic landmark. If the Historic Preservation Commission does not agree with the determination of the Historic Preservation Officer, then the Construction Official is notified within 20 days of that determination and a demolition permit may be issued. Essentially, the proposed regulations would provide the Town with the ability to "pause" the demolition process that involves a potentially historical structure.

Mayor Brindle mentioned that the process described by the Town Attorney is consistent with the process followed by many municipalities within the State of New Jersey.

Councilwoman Habgood confirmed that Mayor Brindle is correct and feels it is important to mention that the ordinance proposed would be in compliance with Municipal Land Use Law and allows the Town to receive a certified local government designation. This allows the Town to become eligible for participation in significant grant programs. Grant awards through these programs would allow the Town to pursue projects involving historic preservation.

Mayor Brindle stated that not being State certified has been an issue because the Town has not been eligible for grant funds that would allow the Town to invest in historic properties.

Councilwoman Habgood confirmed that Mayor Brindle is correct, and the Town was not eligible to apply for grant funding because its ordinance was not consistent with Municipal Land Use Law. Until this change is made, the Town would continue to be ineligible for any State grant opportunities.

Mayor Brindle referred to Mr. Stillfusen's comment concerning the impact General Ordinance No. 2179 would have on currently designated properties and asked Councilwoman Habgood to address that concern because she was unaware of any impact to those properties.

Councilwoman Habgood stated that she agrees with Mayor Brindle and feels much effort was given to appreciate the need to accept certain materials, reduce color requirements and the like because they could be more expensive and make it more onerous for property owners to renovate or maintain their historically designated home. Feels those that have a historically designated home should find the proposed ordinance to be beneficial in terms of the requirements for ongoing maintenance.

Councilman LoGrippe discussed the regulations in the ordinance that could result in a newly constructed home being included in a historically designated district.

The Town Attorney explained that under the existing ordinance, any home could be included in a historically designated district. Further explained that this is considered a non-contributing property and stated that there are 1 or 2 non-contributing properties included in the Kimball Avenue Historic District.

Councilman LoGrippe asked the Town Attorney to discuss the process when his street (Walnut Street) was being considered for designation as a historical district. Stated that the residents

worked with the Town for 2 years on this designation, which appeared to be moving forward, and then residents decided against it.

The Town Attorney explained that some of the neighbors on the street decided that it was something they did not want, and under the existing ordinance, a super majority needs to agree to the designation, which is inconsistent with State land use law. Explained that only the Town Council, along with the Planning Board, have the ability to undertake zoning, and the Town's current ordinance, in effect, provides residents with zoning power. Also stated that the Town's ordinance, as it exists, is subject to legal challenge. As to the designation of his street as a historic district, some decided against the designation because they were concerned with the Town being able to control what color they could paint their house. Feels the Historic Preservation Commission "heard" that comment because it had been stated frequently. Explained that under the existing ordinance, the Historic Preservation Commission could tell a resident what color his/her home could be painted, but that provision has been removed from the proposed ordinance. Referred to Councilwoman Habgood's comments and stated that some of the current regulations have been "loosened" under the proposed ordinance, including less restrictive requirements as to the use of certain materials and paint colors.

Councilman LoGrippe asked, if under the proposed ordinance, the Town could indirectly "force" Walnut Street to be designated as a historic district.

The Town Attorney explained that if the Town were so inclined, and if it were consistent with land use law, it could designate Walnut Street as a historic district. It would also need to meet the criteria set forth in the proposed ordinance. Discussed efforts to designate Stoneleigh Park that have not moved forward.

Councilman LoGrippe discussed his involvement with the designation of Stoneleigh Park over the years and the decision by residents not to move forward with the designation. Feels it should be made clear to residents that the Town or the Historic Preservation Commission could "force" a designation upon them.

The Town Attorney addressed the questions raised by Mr. Stillufsen and discussed Mr. Stillufsen's attendance at most Historic Preservation Commission meetings. Stated that while Mr. Stillufsen might not have seen a copy of the draft ordinance until tonight, he was in attendance when changes were discussed in concept by the Historic Preservation Commission. Also stated that in many cases ordinances are revised several times before they are introduced, and in some instances, they are removed from an agenda. Discussed the length of General Ordinance No. 2179 and stated that it has been amended dozens of times because of its complicated nature. Explained that draft ordinances are typically not made public before they are introduced and referred to Councilwoman Habgood's comments in which she explained that this is the start of the public process. Stated that this ordinance must be referred to the Planning Board for review and that the Planning Board has up to 35 days to review the ordinance. As such, believes that this would be a minimum of a 45 to 60-day process before it comes before the Town Council for a final vote. It could also be amended or possibly reintroduced if comments by the Planning Board are substantive in nature, allowing plenty of opportunity for public input.

Mr. Stillufsen stated that he appreciates that there is a process, but believes it makes more sense to obtain input from homeowners ahead of time, rather than after the fact and through a very formal process. Also referenced comments in which interested homeowners on West Dudley Avenue were solicited for input and homeowners of currently designated properties were not. Feels input by residents would improve the ordinance for both homeowners and the Town.

Councilwoman Habgood explained that the residents of West Dudley Avenue took it upon themselves to review the ordinance and submit comments, and that any resident may do the same. Feels there is plenty of opportunity for residents to provide input, as the process could extend over 2 months.

Mayor Brindle thanked Mr. Stillufsen for his comments and assured him that there would be plenty of time for him to provide input. In addition, mentioned, as a reminder, that the Planning Board chairman recently designated his property a historic landmark and could bring that perspective to the review process. Stated that historic preservation is something the governing

body has heard many times as a priority for the Town and feels now is the time to act on regulations that would preserve Westfield's history for the long term.

Greg Simpson, 500 Salter Place, thanked Councilman Parmelee for responding to an email he sent today regarding General Ordinance No. 2179. Stated that he echoes Mr. Stillufsen's comments that more inclusion from current homeowners of historically designated properties would be great. Stated that he lives in a pre-revolutionary war home and feels the more input from people who have homes on the registry, the more it would encourage residents to designate their homes. Also believes a mutually beneficial relationship would provide that encouragement because all would be working together, as opposed to residents learning that the Town is considering an ordinance for which they do not know the details, whether they be consequential or beneficial. Explained that his email to Councilman Parmelee was helpful because he was informed of the beneficial aspects of the ordinance, such as the removal of the provision that would allow the Historic Preservation Commission to determine a home's paint color. Feels working together would result in more historically designated homes, and the owners of those homes would also be happier.

Mayor Brindle thanked Mr. Simpson for his commitment to historic preservation. Feels it sets a great example for others in the community.

Councilwoman Mackey referred to Councilman LoGrippe's comments in which he stated that the Town could force historic designation of homes and districts. Feels it is important to explain that in order to be compliant with the Municipal Land Use Law, the Town must have the power to designate without a homeowner's consent, however there is no intention to force a designation upon a homeowner.

Debby Burslem, 256 Kimball Avenue, stated that she feels fortunate to live in the Town's only historically designated district. Stated that she agrees with Mr. Stillufsen and was surprised because she has been unable to attend Historic Preservation Commission meetings over the past year but had attended faithfully for many years. Stated that she has been asked personally and has spoken willingly to people in Town about the advantages of living in a historic district. Also stated that she was surprised to learn that this ordinance was moving forward and was made aware of it when someone emailed her earlier today. Stated that she is grateful that the ordinance is moving forward but feels input is a good thing and that the Town has been asking for input on many issues over the past 2 years. Feels the residents of the Kimball Avenue Historic District have a wealth and depth of knowledge that many others might not have. While she understands that the Town is not required to notify those living in a historic district, feels it would be a good resource.

Councilwoman Habgood stated that it was nice to speak to Ms. Burslem about the ordinance this afternoon and assured residents that the Town Council is always open to and welcomes public input regarding proposed ordinances. Feels there were open conversations during Historic Preservation Commission meetings about the fact that amendments to the Town's current ordinance were being considered in order to be consistent with State law and be eligible for grants. Explained that one of the bigger problems the Town is facing is that it needs funding in order to maintain its historic structures. Encouraged residents to review the ordinance that was made available on the website and to forward the Town their input, especially those who currently own historically designated properties.

Cornelius Cody, 337 First Street, discussed the rainbow crosswalks that have been proposed and suggested that they include both black and brown in addition to the colors of the rainbow to represent people of color who are impacted most by issues within the LGBTQ community and face greater oppression.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Brindle closed this portion of the meeting.

### **BILLS AND CLAIMS**

On motion by Councilwoman Habgood, and seconded by Councilwoman Mackey, bills and claims were adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED that the bills and claims in the amount of \$2,609,904.82 per the list submitted to the members of this Council by the Chief Financial Officer, and approved for payment by the Town

Administrator be, and the same are hereby, approved and that payroll warrants previously issued by the Chief Financial Officer be ratified.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

Finance Policy Committee

The following resolutions, introduced by Councilwoman Habgood, and seconded by Councilman Parmelee, were unanimously adopted with Councilman LoGrippto voting against Resolution No. 115.

**Resolution No. 118**

WHEREAS, Accurate Sewer and Drain LLC, 528 Downer Street, Westfield, NJ has placed the required cash bond of \$500.00 to cover Road Opening Permit No. 19-107 for 526 Lenox Avenue, and

WHEREAS, Accurate Sewer and Drain LLC has requested that this amount be returned, and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer has inspected the roadway excavation and has found the excavation to have been properly repaired.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Treasurer be authorized to draw a warrant in the name of Accurate Sewer and Drain LLC, 528 Downer Street, Westfield NJ 07090.

**Resolution No. 119**

RESOLVED, that the Town Treasurer be authorized to refund the following fees to the following individual:

| Name  | Account  | Class  | Fee      |
|---|--|--|----------|
| Daniel Kelly<br>553 Edgar Road<br>Westfield, NJ 07090                   | #195<br>Membership Refund/Pool<br>9-03-55-920-202  | Pool Membership 2020<br>Resident/Senior Citizen      | \$90.00  |
| Federico Ceraso<br>742 Rahway Ave<br>w/Childcare<br>Westfield, NJ 07090 | #195<br>Membership Refund/Pool<br>9-03-55-920-202  | Pool Membership 2020<br>Resident/Family of 4 or less | \$520.00 |
| Susan Frigand<br>17 Sandra Circle<br>Westfield, NJ 07090                | #195<br>Membership Refund/Pool<br>9-03-55-920-2020 | Pool Membership 2020<br>Resident/Senior Citizen      | \$90.00  |
| Elizabeth Pearson<br>131 North Cottage Place<br>Westfield, NJ 07090     | #195<br>Membership Refund/Pool<br>9-03-55-920-202  | Pool Membership 2020<br>Resident/Family of 5 or more | \$520.00 |
| Maryann Reilly<br>209 Ayliffe Ave<br>Westfield, NJ 07090                | #195<br>Membership Refund/Pool<br>9-03-55-920-202  | Pool Membership 2020<br>Resident/Parent-Child        | \$300.00 |
| Arup Das<br>1325 Overhill Street<br>Westfield, NJ 07090                 | #195<br>Membership Refund/Pool<br>9-03-55-920-202  | Pool Membership 2020<br>Resident/Family of 4 or less | \$420.00 |
| Diana Taylor<br>694 Westfield Ave<br>Westfield, NJ 07090                | #195<br>Membership Refund/Pool<br>9-03-55-920-202  | Pool Membership 2020<br>Resident/Senior Citizen      | \$90.00  |
| Ryan Oligino<br>716 Oak Ave<br>Westfield, NJ 07090                      | #195<br>Membership Refund/Pool<br>9-03-55-920-202  | Pool Membership 2020<br>Resident/Family of 4 or less | \$420.00 |
| Maria Losa<br>120 North Cottage Place                                   | #195<br>Membership Refund/Pool                     | Pool Membership 2020<br>Resident/Parent-Child        | \$300.00 |

|   |   |  |          |
|---|---|--|----------|
| Westfield, NJ 07090                                       | 9-03-55-920-202                                   |  |          |
| Sunny Kordower<br>11 Marlboro Lane<br>Colonia, NJ 07067   | #195<br>Membership Refund/Pool<br>9-03-55-920-202 | Pool Membership 2020<br>Non-Resident/Senior Citizen                                | \$155.00 |
| Jessie Lebwohl<br>407 Quantuk Lane<br>Westfield, NJ 07090 | T-05-600-071<br>Tennis/Red                        | Refund/Program Cancelled<br>Jr. Tennis/Spring – Pee Wee/Tue-4:00<br>Oliver Lebwohl | \$77.00  |

**Resolution No. 120**  
RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to draw a warrant in the amount of \$56.40 to the order of New Jersey Department of Health, P.O. Box 369, Trenton, New Jersey for Dog Licenses issued by the Town Clerk for the month of May 2020.

**Resolution No. 121**  
RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer be and hereby is, authorized to draw warrant for unused parking permit fee as follows:

|   |                 |           |          |
|---|-----------------|-----------|----------|
| David Gantz<br>612 Maple Street<br>Westfield, NJ 07090          | Lot 9           | #20080060 | \$406.00 |
| Arthur Mason<br>617 Prospect Street<br>Westfield, NJ 07090      | SS RR Stn/Lot 3 | #20030425 | \$406.00 |
| John T. Butler<br>96 Rosewood Avenue<br>Springfield, NJ 07081   | SS RR Stn/Lot 3 | #20030325 | \$406.00 |
| Robert Saunders<br>241 North Avenue West<br>Westfield, NJ 07090 | Lot 8           | #20080427 | \$150.00 |

**Resolution No. 122**  
RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer be, and he hereby is authorized to draw warrants to the following persons, these amounts being overpaid for 2020:

| Block/Lot/Qualifier | Quarter/Year          |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Name                | Amount                |
| Property Address    |                       |
| 2608/16             | 3 <sup>rd</sup> /2020 |
| Halloran, Eileen    | \$1,459.20            |

**Check payable and mail to:**  
Reverse Mortgage Service c/o Lereta LLC  
P O Box 35605  
Dallas, Texas 75235-9788

Attn: Refund (Marian Good)

**Resolution No. 123**  
RESOLVED that the Treasurer be and he hereby is authorized to draw warrants to the order of the following persons, this being the amount taxes were overpaid for the year 2019 pursuant to the Tax Court of New Jersey:

| Block/Lot            | Year           | Amount     |
|----------------------|----------------|------------|
| Name                 | Address        |            |
| 2302/17              | 2019           | \$3,371.20 |
| Greco, Peter & Carol | 7 Stanley Oval |            |

4206/23                                      547 Shackamaxon Drive                                      2019                                      \$1,081.45  
Cassidy, Thomas E & Gail A

**Resolution No. 124**

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield wishes to redesign its website; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield obtained proposals and conducted interviews with three (3) web development vendors; and

WHEREAS, CivicPlus is a web development vendor which offers an integrated technology platform specifically for local government agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Westfield has determined that the CivicPlus platform provides the capabilities and functionality sought by the Town of Westfield for the best price; and

WHEREAS, SHI International, 290 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, New Jersey 08873 a software reseller, has been awarded New Jersey State Contract # M0003-89851 for software license, and related services for the period 09/01/2015 to 06/30/2020; and

WHEREAS, SHI International submitted a proposal to the Town of Westfield for website redesign services which includes the CivicPlus platform at a cost of \$68,668.36; and

WHEREAS, the Town Treasurer has certified to the availability of adequate funds for payment in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30 1.10 to SHI International in an amount not expected to exceed \$68,668.36, with \$40,000.00 to be charged to Account No. 9-01-100-256 and the remaining \$28,668.36 to be charged to Account No. #0-01-100-256, both under Purchase Order No. 20-01676.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Westfield that a contract for the aforementioned services be and hereby is awarded to SHI International, 290 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, New Jersey 08873 at a fee not to exceed \$68,668.36; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper Town Officials be and hereby are authorized to take whatever actions are appropriate in the execution of discharge of this Contract

**Resolution No. 125**

WHEREAS, in connection with the Westfield 300 festivities, the Town of Westfield has solicited and received certain donated funds from private citizens and organizations, which amount may be used for various matters connected with those festivities; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to contract with a vendor to provide certain specializing lighting in connection with the Town's annual holiday lighting in and around the downtown area, as a special legacy project of Westfield 300; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1 et seq., the Town may use competitive contracting in lieu of public bidding for procurement of specialized goods and services; and

WHEREAS, the Town has solicited and received quotations for such specialized lighting, and it has determined that Mosca Design, LLC, of Raleigh, North Carolina, has submitted a proposal that most successfully meets the stated criteria and, therefore, achieved the highest ranking, rather than based solely on the lowest price; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Westfield, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, that the Mayor of the Town of Westfield is authorized to execute a purchase order with Mosca Design, LLC, 8450 Garvey Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina 27616, for an amount not to exceed \$32,000, which shall be paid for from funds that have been deposited in the special Town of Westfield Westfield 300 account.



**Resolution No. 126**

RESOLVED that warrants noted below be drawn to the order of Westfield Board of Education for Local School Taxes as provided in the 2021-21 budget, in accordance with R.S. 54:4-75:

|                    |              |                         |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| July 6, 2020       |              | \$6,615,901.00          |
| July 21, 2020      | Debt Service | 1,107,675.00            |
| August 7, 2020     |              | 8,232,252.00            |
| September 3, 2020  |              | 8,567,497.00            |
| September 10, 2020 | Debt Service | 837,509.00              |
| October 6, 2020    |              | 9,436,252.00            |
| November 3, 2020   |              | 9,436,252.00            |
| December 4, 2020   |              | 9,436,251.00            |
| January 5, 2021    |              | 8,779,213.00            |
| February 5, 2021   |              | 8,779,213.00            |
| March 1, 2021      | Debt Service | 756,460.00              |
| March 8, 2021      |              | 7,828,338.00            |
| April 5, 2021      |              | 8,779,212.00            |
| May 4, 2021        |              | 8,779,212.00            |
| June 4, 2021       |              | <u>8,779,212.00</u>     |
| TOTAL              |              | <u>\$106,150,449.00</u> |

Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee

Code Review & Town Property Committee

The following resolutions, introduced by Councilwoman Mackey, and seconded by Councilman Contract, were unanimously adopted.

**Resolution No. 127**

WHEREAS, land use is an essential component of overall sustainability for a municipality; and

WHEREAS, poor land-use decisions can lead to and increase societal ills such as decreased mobility, high housing costs, increased greenhouse gas emissions, loss of open space and the degradation of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, well planned land use can create transportation choices, provide for a range of housing options, create walkable communities, preserve open space, provide for adequate recreation, and allow for the continued protection and use of vital natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Given New Jersey’s strong tradition of home rule and local authority over planning and zoning, achieving a statewide sustainable land use pattern will require municipalities to take the lead;

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Town of Westfield adopted by resolution a Master Plan Reexamination Report (MPRR) that included a vision statement, guiding principles, and goals and objectives, as well as over 30 recommended actions, that explicitly addressed sustainability and elaborate on the seven sustainability elements listed below.

NOW THEREFORE, we the Town of Westfield resolve to apply the seven land use principles described below and the MPRR sustainability recommendations to guide the development of future Master Plan Elements, including initially during the stakeholder engagement and public participation process supporting the preparation of a Unified Land Use and Circulation Element to its Master Plan (updating the existing Land Use Element and Circulation Element) as well as to update our land-use zoning, natural resource protection, and other ordinances accordingly. The adopted Sustainable Land Use Pledge resolution will be distributed to the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Green Team and other relevant boards and commissions.

Regional Cooperation - We pledge to reach out to administrations of our neighboring municipalities concerning land-use decisions, and to take into consideration regional impacts when making land-use decisions.

Transportation Choices - We pledge to create transportation choices with a Complete Streets approach by considering all modes of transportation, including walking, biking, transit and automobiles, when planning transportation projects and reviewing development applications. We will reevaluate our parking with the goal of limiting the amount of required parking spaces, promoting shared parking and other innovative parking alternatives, and encouraging structured parking alternatives where appropriate.

Natural Resource Protection - We pledge to take action to protect the natural resources of the State for environmental, recreational and agricultural value, avoiding or mitigating negative impacts to these resources. Further, we pledge to complete a Natural Resources Inventory when feasible to identify and assess the extent of our natural resources and to link natural resource management and protection to carrying capacity analysis, land-use and open space planning.

Mix of Land Uses - We pledge to use our zoning power to allow for a mix of residential, retail, commercial, recreational and other land use types in areas that make the most sense for our municipality and the region, particularly in downtown and town center areas.

Housing Options - We pledge, through the use of our zoning and revenue generating powers, to foster a diverse mix of housing types and locations, including single- and multi-family, for-sale and rental options, to meet the needs of all people at a range of income levels.

Green Design - We pledge to incorporate the principles of green design and renewable energy generation into municipal buildings to the extent feasible and when updating our site plan and subdivision requirements for residential and commercial buildings.

Municipal Facilities Siting - We pledge, to the extent feasible, to take into consideration factors such as walkability, bikability, greater access to public transit, proximity to other land-use types, and open space when locating new or relocated municipal facilities.

#### **Resolution No. 128**

WHEREAS, pursuant to his authority under the New Jersey Civilian Defense and Disaster Control Act, N.J.S.A. App.A:9-30 *et seq.*, and the New Jersey Emergency Health Powers Act, N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 *et seq.*, Governor Philip D. Murphy has declared both a Public Health Emergency and State of Emergency in this State, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, as COVID-19 continued to spread across New Jersey, the Governor issued a series of Executive Orders pursuant to his statutory authority, which orders have been aimed at protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public against the emergency created by COVID-19, including Executive Order Nos. 104-133, Nos. 135-138, and Nos. 140-149 (2020); and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 104 limited all restaurants, dining establishments, and food courts, with or without a liquor license, all bars, and all other holders of a liquor license with retail consumption privileges, to offering food delivery and/or take-out services only, meaning that they could not allow the on-premises consumption of food or beverages; and

WHEREAS, as the State continues to see a decrease in disease transmission, the Governor announced a multi-stage plan to reopen businesses and activities in the State; and

WHEREAS, as part of that plan, on June 3, 2020, Governor Murphy signed Executive Order 150, which permits, beginning on June 15, 2020, food or beverage establishments, such as restaurants, cafeterias, dining establishments, and food courts, with or without a liquor license; and bars and all other holders of a liquor license with retail consumption privileges, to offer in-person service at outdoor areas only; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order 150, the New Jersey Commission of Health has issued Executive Order 20-014, which provides detailed protocols for food or beverage establishments offering services in outdoor areas; and the Acting Director of the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control issued a Special Ruling Establishing a Temporary COVID-19 Permit to Expand Licensed Premises; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 150 grants to municipalities the authority to make all decisions with respect to establishing the process for allowing and determining the location of restaurants or bars to expand their service footprint on their property and potentially into shared spaces in a way that comports with public safety; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council want to ensure that outdoor seating for food or beverage establishments is undertaken in a manner that both returns those businesses to successful operation quickly and in a manner consistent with the health and safety concerns of Covid-19, and also does not interfere with the operations of non-food or beverage retail establishments, which are also permitted to re-open on June 15, 2020, pursuant to Executive Order 150.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Westfield, for so long as Executive Order 150 remains in effect, as follows:

1. The Clerk of the Town of Westfield (or designee) is directed to provide to all food or beverage establishments a copy of Executive Order 150 and Executive Order 20-014; and to provide ABC licensees and permittees with on-premises retail consumption privileges a copy of the ABC Acting Director's Special Ruling.
2. The Clerk of the Town of Westfield (or designee) shall prepare and provide to all food or beverage establishments an application form to permit in-person service at outdoor areas, which application form shall at a minimum require applicants to provide a sketch to the Town Clerk of the Applicant's proposed outdoor seating plan.
3. The Clerk shall process such applications in an expedient manner, and shall consult with such other Town officials, and the Executive Director of the Downtown Westfield Corporation, as necessary in order to ensure that the outdoor seating plan protects the health and safety of all of the Applicant's employees, patrons of such food or beverage establishments, and residents generally.
4. No fee shall be charged by the Clerk for the submission or approval of such applications.
5. Applications shall be approved in a manner that is equitable both in relation to other food or beverage establishments, and to other retail establishments in the immediate proximity to such food or beverage establishments.
6. The Mayor and Council do hereby approve the use of any and all public property and rights of way as determined by the Town Clerk to be necessary and appropriate for outdoor seating for food or beverage establishments.
7. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Town Code of the Town of Westfield, the Clerk (or designee) may permit outdoor expansion areas into areas such as decks, patios, sidewalks, and parking lots adjacent to or contiguous with the licensed premises, or parks, "parklets" established by a municipality, and other public rights-of-way, as long as these areas are accessible from the licensed premises and comply with all provisions of Executive Order 150, Executive Order 20-014, and the ABC Special Ruling concerning public health and social distancing requirements.
8. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Town Code, the Clerk (or designee) may approve such signage as proposed by the Applicant and as are necessary and appropriate

to carry out the provisions of Executive Order 150, Executive Order 20-014, and the ABC Special Ruling.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper Town Officials be, hereby are, authorized to take whatever actions are appropriate in the execution and discharge of this Resolution.

**General Ordinance No. 2172**

Regarding the following ordinance, Councilwoman Mackey made the following announcement: I hereby move that an ordinance entitled, “GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2172-AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER TWELVE OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY, IN ORDER TO REGULATE THE HOURS DURING WHICH LOUD MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT MAY BE USED”

The motion was seconded by Councilman Boyes.

General Ordinance No. 2172 was approved by the following vote of all present upon roll call as follows:

|               |       |         |
|---------------|-------|---------|
| Yeas: Habgood | Nays: | Absent: |
| Parmalee      |       |         |
| Katz          |       |         |
| LoGrippo      |       |         |
| Mackey        |       |         |
| Contract      |       |         |
| Dardia        |       |         |
| Boyes         |       |         |
| Mayor Brindle |       |         |

Heretofore introduced, General Ordinance No. 2172 does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June 2020 at 8:00 o'clock, p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and that at such time and place or any time and place to which such meeting shall from time to time be adjourned, all persons interested be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

**General Ordinance No. 2173**

Regarding the following ordinance, Councilwoman Mackey made the following announcement: I hereby move that an ordinance entitled, “GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2173- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY, AS IT RELATES TO THE STORAGE AND DELIVERY OF PREMANUFACTURED (MODULAR) HOMES AND BUILDING COMPONENTS”

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Habgood.

General Ordinance No. 2173 was approved by the following vote of all present upon roll call as follows:

|               |       |         |
|---------------|-------|---------|
| Yeas: Habgood | Nays: | Absent: |
| Parmalee      |       |         |
| Katz          |       |         |
| LoGrippo      |       |         |
| Mackey        |       |         |
| Contract      |       |         |
| Dardia        |       |         |
| Boyes         |       |         |
| Mayor Brindle |       |         |

Heretofore introduced, General Ordinance No. 2173 does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 30th day of June

2020 at 8:00 o'clock, p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and that at such time and place or any time and place to which such meeting shall from time to time be adjourned, all persons interested be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

**General Ordinance No. 2174**

Regarding the following ordinance, Councilwoman Mackey made the following announcement: I hereby move that an ordinance entitled, "GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2174- AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE WESTFIELD MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD"

The motion was seconded by Councilman LoGrippe.

General Ordinance No. 2174 was approved by the following vote of all present upon roll call as follows:

|               |       |         |
|---------------|-------|---------|
| Yeas: Habgood | Nays: | Absent: |
| Parmalee      |       |         |
| Katz          |       |         |
| LoGrippe      |       |         |
| Mackey        |       |         |
| Contract      |       |         |
| Dardia        |       |         |
| Boyes         |       |         |
| Mayor Brindle |       |         |

Heretofore introduced, General Ordinance No. 2174 does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 30th day of June 2020 at 8:00 o'clock, p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and that at such time and place or any time and place to which such meeting shall from time to time be adjourned, all persons interested be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

**General Ordinance No. 2175**

Item removed from agenda.

**General Ordinance No. 2176**

Regarding the following ordinance, Councilwoman Mackey made the following announcement: I hereby move that an ordinance entitled, "GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2176- ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING GOVERNMENT ENERGY AGGREGATION PROGRAM"

The motion was seconded by Councilman Parmelee.

General Ordinance No. 2176 was approved by the following vote of all present upon roll call as follows:

|               |                |         |
|---------------|----------------|---------|
| Yeas: Habgood | Nays: LoGrippe | Absent: |
| Parmalee      |                |         |
| Katz          |                |         |
| Mackey        |                |         |
| Contract      |                |         |
| Dardia        |                |         |
| Boyes         |                |         |
| Mayor Brindle |                |         |

Heretofore introduced, General Ordinance No. 2176 does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 30th day of June 2020 at 8:00 o'clock, p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and that at such time and place or any time and place to which such meeting shall from time to time be adjourned, all persons interested be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

**General Ordinance No. 2177**

Regarding the following ordinance, Councilwoman Mackey made the following announcement: I hereby move that an ordinance entitled, "GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2177- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAND USE ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH AND REGULATE BOARDING HOUSES"

The motion was seconded by Councilman LoGrippe.

General Ordinance No. 2177 was approved by the following vote of all present upon roll call as follows:

| Yeas:         | Nays: | Absent: |
|---------------|-------|---------|
| Habgood       |       |         |
| Parmalee      |       |         |
| Katz          |       |         |
| LoGrippe      |       |         |
| Mackey        |       |         |
| Contract      |       |         |
| Dardia        |       |         |
| Boyes         |       |         |
| Mayor Brindle |       |         |

Heretofore introduced, General Ordinance No. 2177 does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 11th day of August 2020 at 8:00 o'clock, p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and that at such time and place or any time and place to which such meeting shall from time to time be adjourned, all persons interested be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

**General Ordinance No. 2178**

Item removed from Agenda.

**General Ordinance No. 2179**

Regarding the following ordinance, Councilwoman Mackey made the following announcement: I hereby move that an ordinance entitled, "GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2179- AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION AND PROVIDING FOR THE DESIGNATION AND PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND HISTORIC LANDMARKS IN THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD"

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Habgood.

**Town Council comments:**

Councilman LoGrippe commended the Town Attorney for explaining some of the provisions of the ordinance, but he would not be supporting its adoption because he feels it is a bit of an "overreach" by government.

Mayor Brindle reminded all that this is only the introduction which would allow for discussion, but that Councilman LoGrippe's vote is noted.

General Ordinance No. 2179 was approved by the following vote of all present upon roll call as follows:

|               |                 |         |
|---------------|-----------------|---------|
| Yeas: Habgood | Nays: LoGrippto | Absent: |
| Parmalee      |                 |         |
| Katz          |                 |         |
| Mackey        |                 |         |
| Contract      |                 |         |
| Dardia        |                 |         |
| Boyes         |                 |         |
| Mayor Brindle |                 |         |

Heretofore introduced, General Ordinance No. 2176 does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 11th day of August 2020 at 8:00 o'clock, p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and that at such time and place or any time and place to which such meeting shall from time to time be adjourned, all persons interested be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

**General Ordinance No. 2180**

Regarding the following ordinance, Councilwoman Mackey made the following announcement: I hereby move that an ordinance entitled, "GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2176- ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING GOVERNMENT ENERGY AGGREGATION PROGRAM"

The motion was seconded by Councilman LoGrippto.

General Ordinance No. 2180 was approved by the following vote of all present upon roll call as follows:

|               |       |         |
|---------------|-------|---------|
| Yeas: Habgood | Nays: | Absent: |
| Parmalee      |       |         |
| Katz          |       |         |
| LoGrippto     |       |         |
| Mackey        |       |         |
| Contract      |       |         |
| Dardia        |       |         |
| Boyes         |       |         |
| Mayor Brindle |       |         |

Heretofore introduced, General Ordinance No. 2180 does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 11th day of August 2020 at 8:00 o'clock, p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and that at such time and place or any time and place to which such meeting shall from time to time be adjourned, all persons interested be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

**General Ordinance No. 2181**

Regarding the following ordinance, Councilwoman Mackey made the following announcement: I hereby move that an ordinance entitled, "GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2181- AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD IN REGARD TO THE DEFINITION OF ACCESSORY BUILDING OR STRUCTURE"

The motion was seconded by Councilman Katz.

General Ordinance No. 2181 was approved by the following vote of all present upon roll call as follows:

|               |       |         |
|---------------|-------|---------|
| Yeas: Habgood | Nays: | Absent: |
| Parmalee      |       |         |
| Katz          |       |         |
| LoGrippe      |       |         |
| Mackey        |       |         |
| Contract      |       |         |
| Dardia        |       |         |
| Boyes         |       |         |
| Mayor Brindle |       |         |

Heretofore introduced, General Ordinance No. 2181 does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 11th day of August 2020 at 8:00 o'clock, p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and that at such time and place or any time and place to which such meeting shall from time to time be adjourned, all persons interested be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

### **General Ordinance No. 2182**

Regarding the following ordinance, Councilwoman Mackey made the following announcement: I hereby move that an ordinance entitled, "GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2182- AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD IN REGARD TO DIMENSIONS OF GARAGE PARKING SPACES"

The motion was seconded by Councilman Parmelee.

General Ordinance No. 2182 was approved by the following vote of all present upon roll call as follows:

|               |       |         |
|---------------|-------|---------|
| Yeas: Habgood | Nays: | Absent: |
| Parmalee      |       |         |
| Katz          |       |         |
| LoGrippe      |       |         |
| Mackey        |       |         |
| Contract      |       |         |
| Dardia        |       |         |
| Boyes         |       |         |
| Mayor Brindle |       |         |

Heretofore introduced, General Ordinance No. 2182 does now pass on first reading, and that said ordinance be further considered for final passage at a meeting to be held on the 11th day of August 2020 at 8:00 o'clock, p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, in the Council Chambers, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and that at such time and place or any time and place to which such meeting shall from time to time be adjourned, all persons interested be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, and that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish said ordinance according to law with a notice of its introduction and passage on first reading and of the time and place when and where said ordinance will be further considered for final passage.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Outdoor seating:**

The Town Administrator referred to the resolution pertaining to outdoor seating as per the Governor's Executive Order No. 150 and explained that it involved a great deal of collaboration between the Town Clerk's office, the Town Attorney's office, the DWC office, the Health



Department and the Fire Department. This collaborative effort was done to assist businesses to expand their outdoor seating and thanked those involved.

Mayor Brindle also thanked the departments involved and stated that she understands that a great deal of work is needed behind the scenes.

#### We Love Local Fund

Mayor Brindle asked Councilman Parmelee to provide an update on the We Love Local Fund.

Councilman Parmelee stated that the We Love Local Fund concluded at the end of May and almost \$277,000 was collected through donations by over 850 residents. Thanked the Westfield United Fund, specifically Dierdre Gelinne and John Walker, as well as the Westfield Foundation for their efforts with this initiative. Stated that funds were distributed to more than 175 local businesses and also thanked Councilwoman Habgood and Councilwoman Mackey for their assistance and involvement. Feels this program is coming to a close at the perfect time because the Town is able to begin the reopening phase. Also feels this program speaks to how much the Town cares for its local businesses. Feels it was a great effort that was spearheaded by Mayor Brindle.

Mayor Brindle feels this fund meant as much to the businesses emotionally as it did financially because they felt love from the community and it helped to sustain them.

#### Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee

Councilman Dardia provided an update of a recent Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee meeting as follows:

- Discussed police policy reforms and reiterated that the Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee is committed to working with the Police Department and any other appropriate entity to review data, police reforms and to commit to improving community policing;
- Addressed the recent fatality at the intersection of North Scotch Plains Avenue and South Avenue and stated that the Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee would be reviewing the police report for the purpose of understanding what took place and reviewing the facts with the Police Department to implement any improvements to prevent future accidents at that intersection. Also stated that the Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee would be reviewing reports of recent accidents in Ward 3 for the same purpose;
- Discussed bicycle lanes and referred to the Bike/Walk Report that was prepared which included many recommendations. The Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee reviewed those recommendations and created a prioritized list with bike lanes being one of the top priorities. Stated that the Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee is requesting Town Council approval to apply for grant funding through the New Jersey Department of Transportation's Bikeway Program in order to implement bike lanes in Town. Additionally, Town Council approval is sought to apply for grant funding through the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the installation of sidewalks in areas where pedestrian safety improvement is needed, which was also recommended through the Bike/Walk Report.

The Town Administrator referred to Councilman Dardia's report concerning grant applications and explained that the applications that he discussed are submitted by the Town annually for road improvements and mentioned, as an example, that the Town was awarded funds for the paving of a large section of Scotch Plains Avenue through this program. The Town would continue to submit applications for road improvements but would like to add 2 items to that request, one for bikeways specifically, and one for municipal aid, which includes both roadway requests and sidewalk requests. Referenced the Bike/Walk Report that was mentioned by Councilman Dardia and stated that it included a sidewalk identification section that identified missing sections of sidewalks that were highly recommended to be top priority. With Town Council's approval, applications could be completed and submitted. Feels the Town is in a good position for a grant award because the Bike/Walk Plan was prepared by a New Jersey Department of Transportation consultant.

Councilman Dardia continued his update of the Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee meeting as follows:

- Announced that the Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee is working with the Green Team's Transportation Subcommittee, spearheaded by Jay Goldring, to implement a bike lane demonstration project later this summer;
- Discussed a program he has been working on with Councilman Contract and Councilman Katz to increase bicycle safety among children. The focus would be to increase the number of Westfield children wearing bicycle helmets. Stated that he has received support from local businesses, the high school and middle school mountain biking teams, the Police, Fire and Health Departments, as well as Children's Specialized Hospital. Stressed that this program is "for kids by kids" and that he has received a fair amount of interest by children that want to participate. Explained that it is a multi-faceted awareness campaign and includes some incentives for children to wear bicycle helmets. Encouraged those who are interested to contact him.

#### Public Works Committee

Councilman Contract discussed the launch of the Adopt-a-Drain Program, which begins June 10, 2020. Explained that the program gives residents the chance to help take care of a sewer drain and discussed the number of residents participating, including himself and the Town Administrator. Maintaining storm sewers helps to keep debris out of the watershed and storm drains and would help to minimize localized flooding. Residents can choose a drain from a map, give it a name, and report how much debris was prevented from going into the storm sewer. Stated that more details are available on the Town's website. Also mentioned that the program is being managed by Green Team volunteer Lois Kraus, who is doing this as part of her environmental stewardship project in connection with the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Program and thanked Ms. Kraus for her efforts.

Councilman Contract also discussed the Westfield 300 Milestone Awards survey that is available online and includes categories such as number of years residing or owning a business in Westfield, how many generations of family have lived in Town, the number of years married, number of grandchildren, longest running business, oldest pet and the like. Stated that while dozens of submissions have been received, the Town is hoping to receive hundreds and encouraged all to submit to ensure no one is left out.

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn, made by Councilman LoGrippe and seconded by Councilman Contract at 10:00 p.m. was unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Rowley, RMC  
Town Clerk